

HOUSTON, TEXAS
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Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00149R000100680002-8

E-273,288
S-315,073

FEB 22 1967.

CIA-Linked Foundations Aided 2 Major Teacher Organizations

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Washington Post News Service
Washington — More than \$1 million has flowed to two major teacher organizations through foundations linked to the Central Intelligence Agency.

Recipients were the 983,000-member National Education Assn. and the World Confedera-

tion of Organizations of the Teaching Profession.

William G. Carr, who is both executive secretary of the NEA and secretary general of the WCOTP, confirmed Tuesday that both organizations had received funds from the mysterious Vernon Fund. All available evidence points to the conclusion that the

Vernon Fund is a creation of the CIA.

Carr did not confirm or deny that the Vernon Fund was a CIA front. His office issued a short statement admitting the receipt of Vernon grants but Carr was unavailable for comment.

Other sources estimated that the NEA received more than \$60,000 from the Vernon Fund to bolster its Committee on International Relations. The committee acts as a host to foreign educators who visit Washington and represents the NEA in the WCOTP.

Nearly all the WCOTP budget comes from the Vernon Fund. For at least the last two years, it has received \$500,000 a year out of total budget of \$555,000.

It sponsors a wide range of programs to develop leadership among educators abroad.

A source said that exposure of the Vernon Fund "may cause the whole organization to fall apart. Many of the people we have dealt with abroad are now education ministers or hold other

important government posts. That could be very embarrassing to them and to us."

In its publications, the organization emphasizes that it is "non-governmental" and "non-American." Its president and vice-president are foreigners as well as its governing board. But Carr has long been the key director of the organization.

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